

Northumbria Research Link

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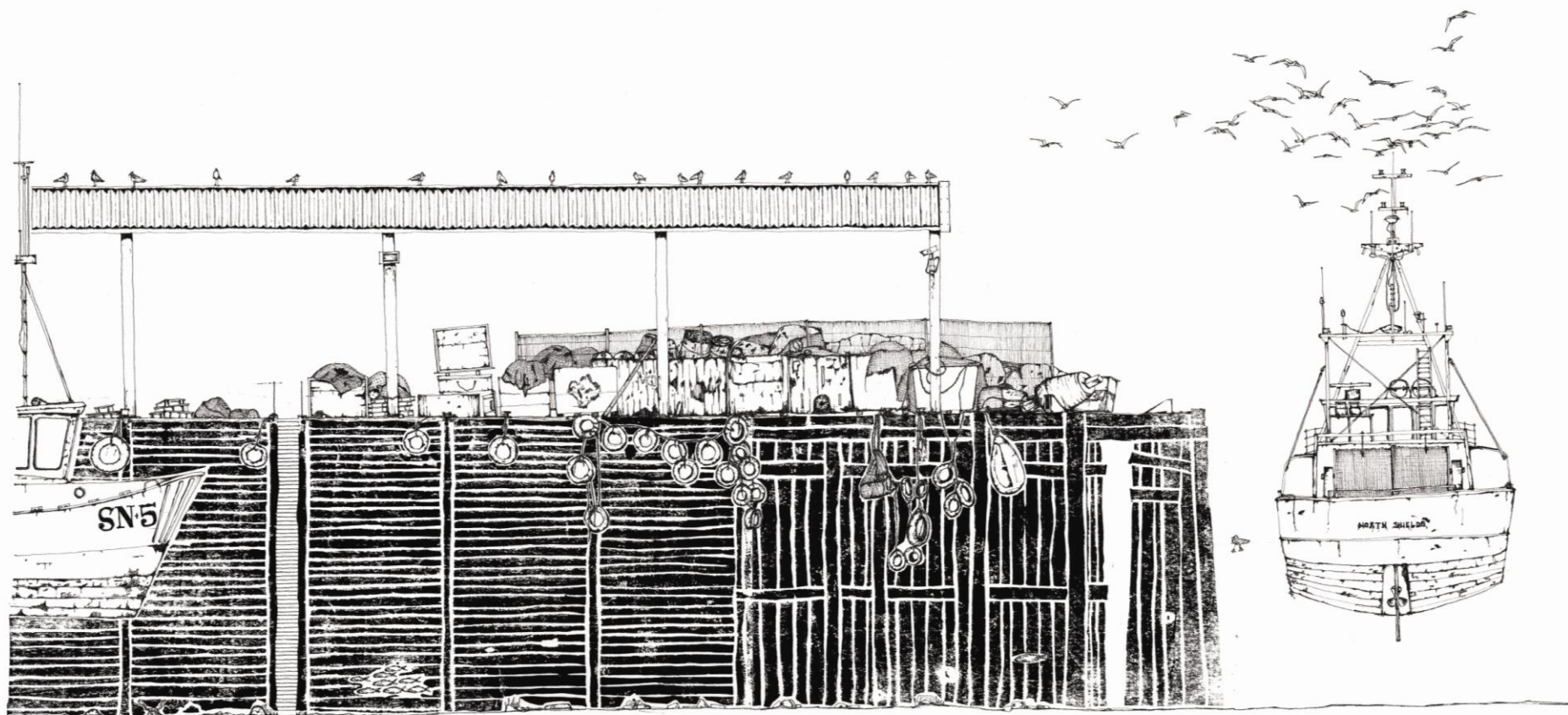
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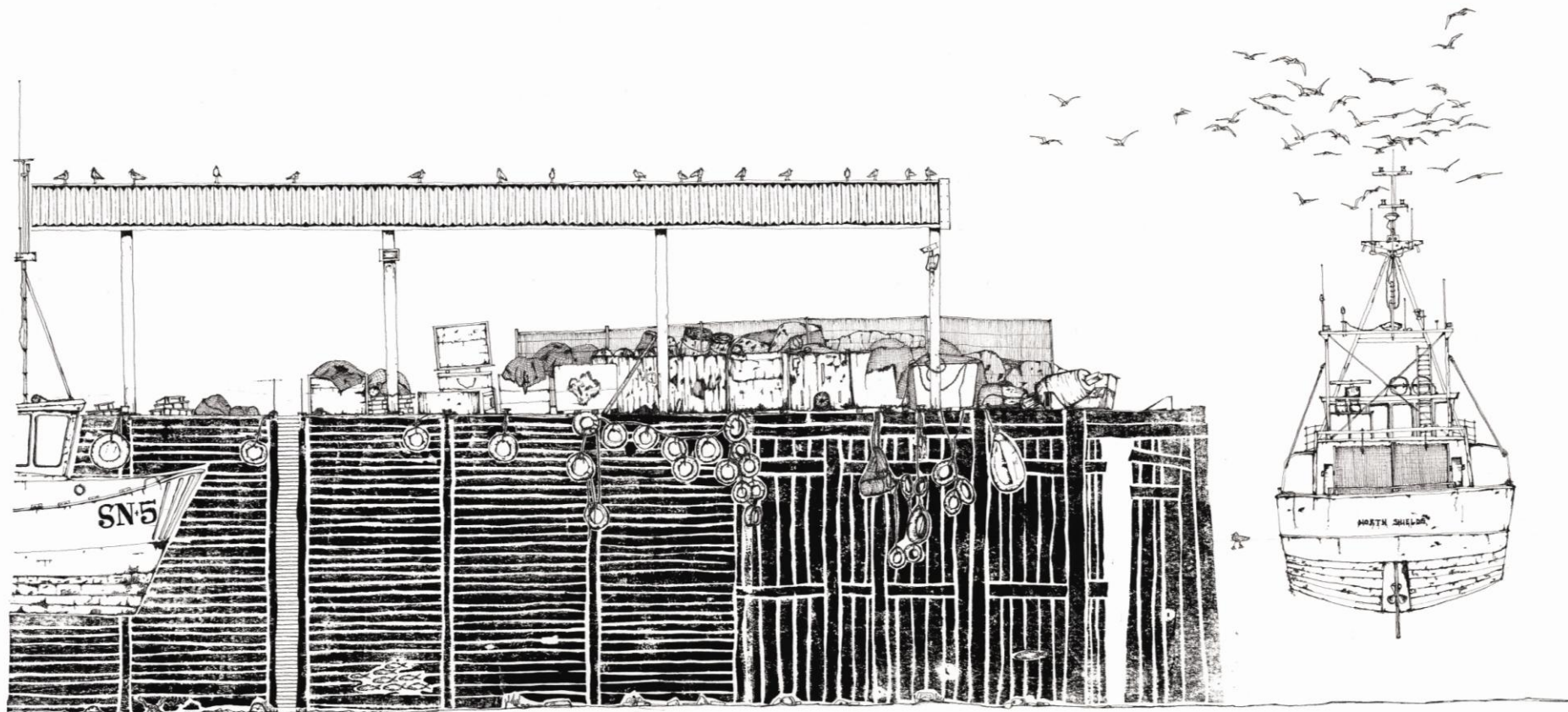
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will campbell, north shields fish quay, 2009

contextualism and the teaching of design studio through regional engagement.

case study and analysis of final year projects in the BA (Hons) Architecture course at northumbria university.



intercultural interactions 2010

The architecture programme at Northumbria University is interested in developing projects with a connection to place: an architecture that is buildable and sustainable. Students are encouraged to develop narratives from the site, through a design process that places an emphasis on model making.

Studio-based design projects are central to this programme and are designed to stimulate imaginative responses to issues concerning the north east of England.

Studio project work makes up half of the programme, and is underpinned by taught modules. The studio is structured to give students clear direction, with students encouraged to produce weekly development sheets, which build up into well organised portfolios.

Alongside studio projects, students examine the practical aspects of architecture, such as construction, sustainable design and management. These subjects are aligned to tie in with project work, and provide valuable preparation for work in practice.

‘The School now has a strong design philosophy grounded in regional contextualism.’

Draft RIBA Report 2009.



chris permain, neolithic museum, 2008

contextual awareness : students are asked to be aware of the context in which they exist and will therefore operate as architects.



dunston staithe, gateshead.

‘.....what is more meaningful is the sense of tradition altogether, that we live rather than analyze and understand; we are historical beings; we are cultural beings; and we exist and live in the continuum of culture and it is our task to continue it – to maintain that sense of continuity.’

Juhani Pallasmaa, 2009

project organisation

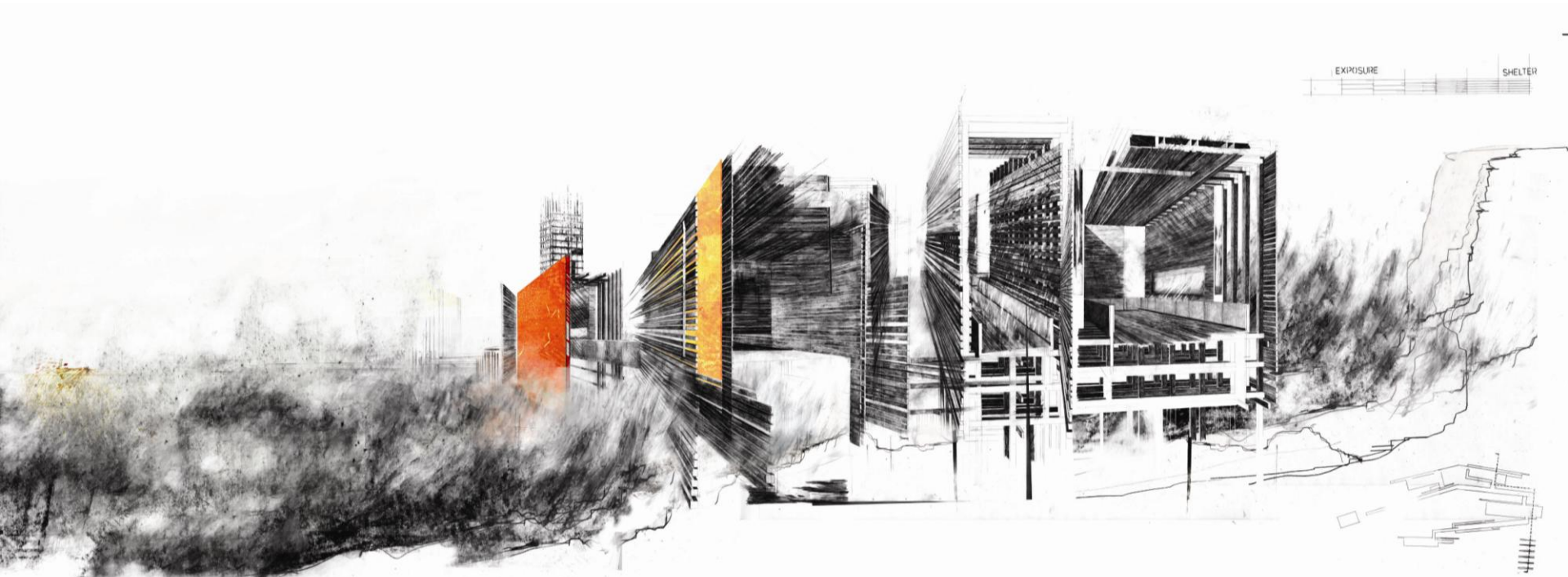


matt drury, one stop shop, scotswood, 2008

project one: urban based, engaging with communities

project two: landscape based, engaging with historical narratives

project organisation

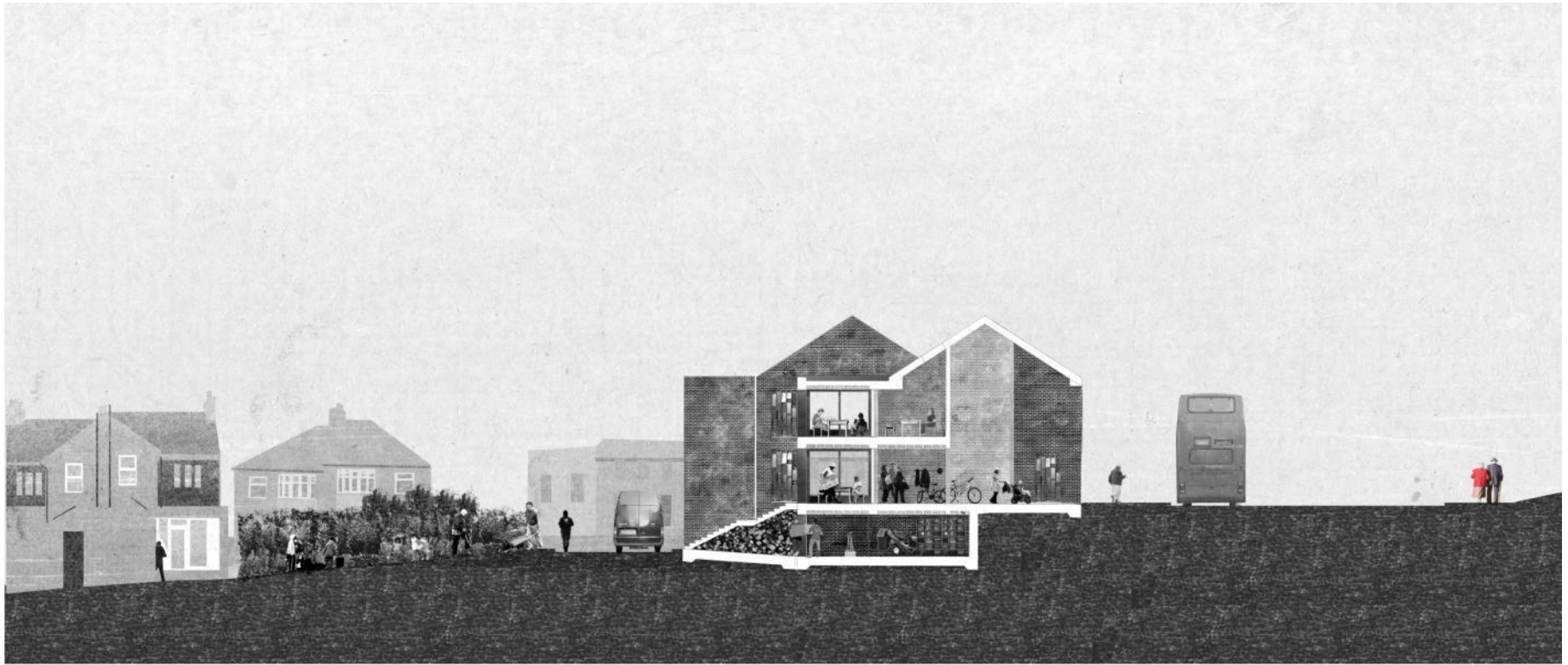


shaun young, a thin place, northumberland, 2008

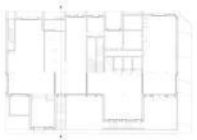
project one: urban based, engaging with communities

project two: landscape based, engaging with historical narratives

examples : 2008/09



matt bailey, one stop shop, scotswood, 2008



Visitors to the community centre are drawn through the building and out in to the gardens beyond.

one stop shop : community facility : scotswood

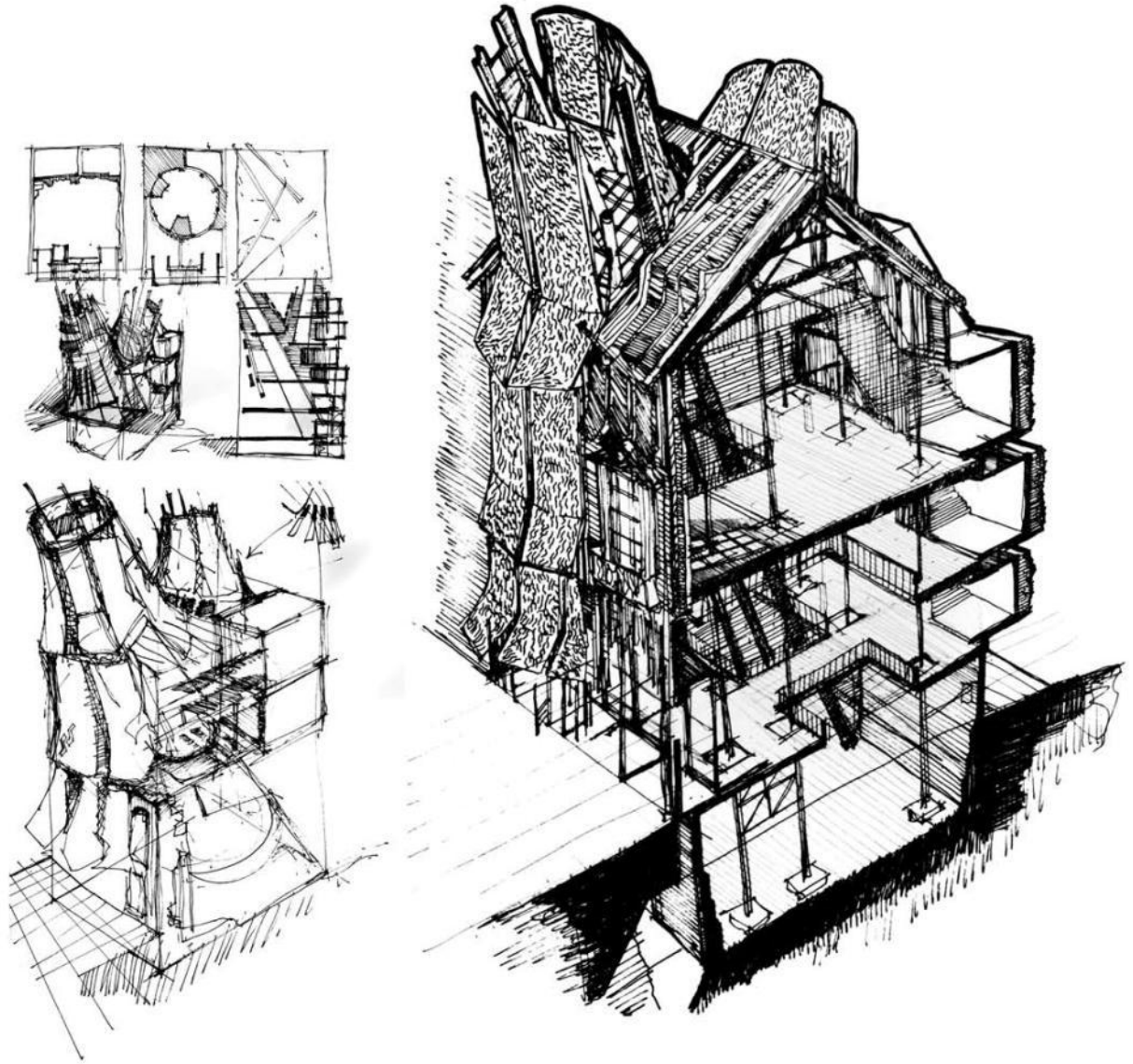
examples : 2008/09



ian connelly, lindisfarne gospels, northumberland, 2009

lindisfarne gospels : holy island, northumberland

examples : 2009/10



guy moulson, young lit+phil, newcastle, 2009

young lit + phil : conversation club, newcastle

examples : 2009/10



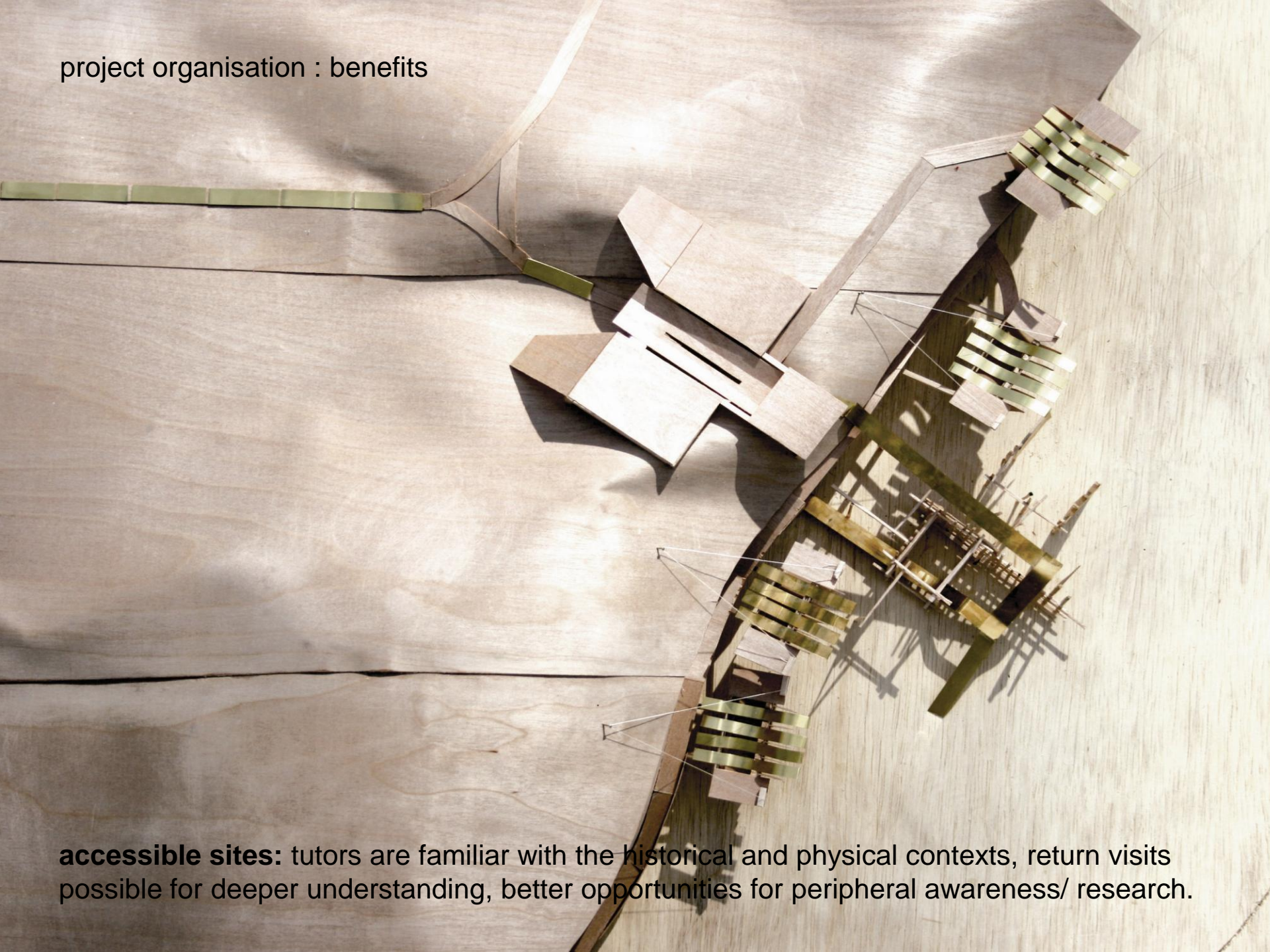
northumbria projects 2010: blanchland/ otterburn range/ langley smelt works/ housesteads fort

project organisation : benefits



balanced portfolio : contrasting projects with different emphasis.

project organisation : benefits



accessible sites: tutors are familiar with the historical and physical contexts, return visits possible for deeper understanding, better opportunities for peripheral awareness/ research.

project organisation : benefits



mark whiting, one stop shop, westgate road, 2007

lends authenticity to process : students can engage on a direct level, address live issues, enables first hand research, etc.

project organisation : benefits



lit+phil society, newcastle



pilgrim street, newcastle

engagement with local practice : student projects can be linked to live projects and further supported by visiting tutors.

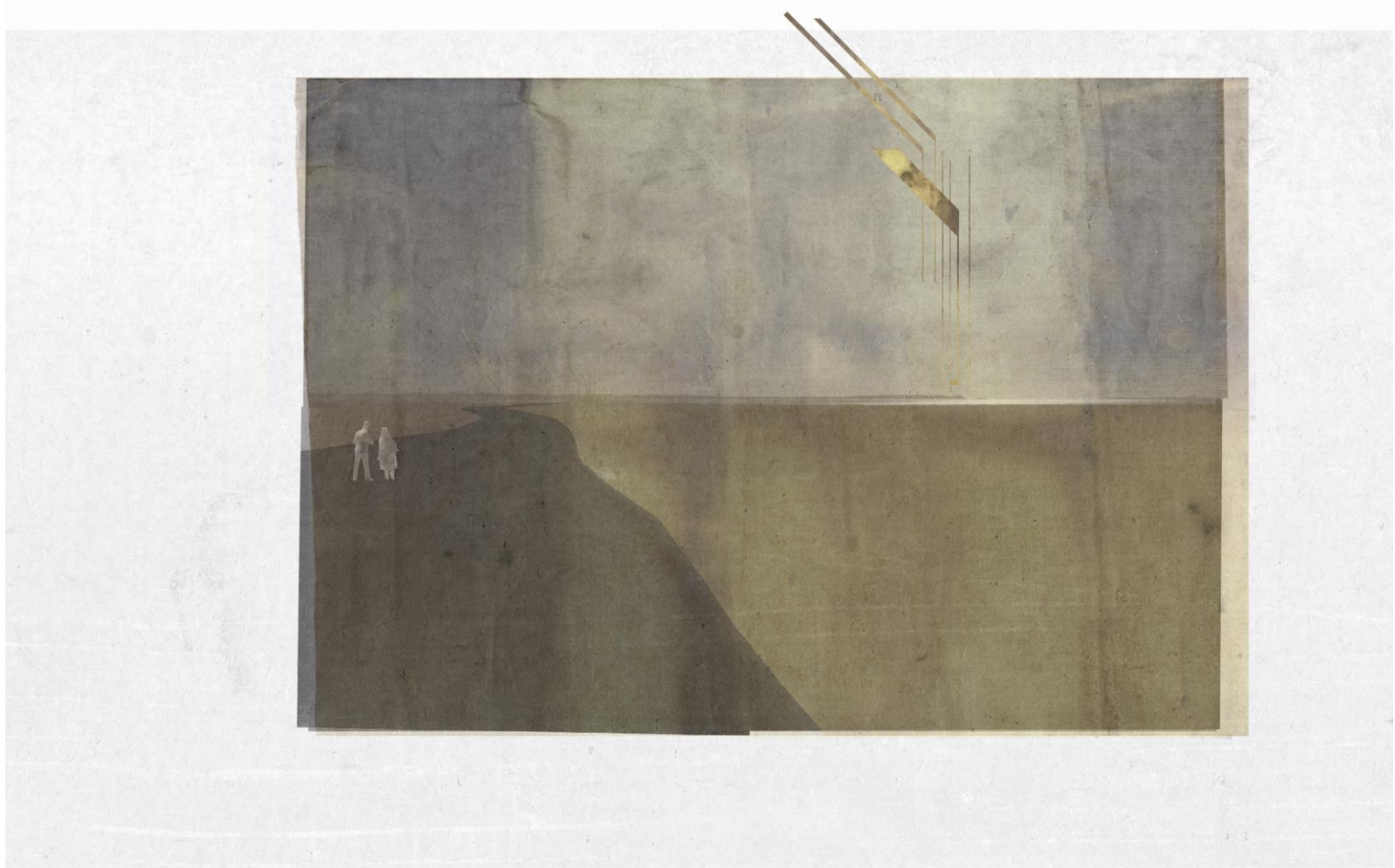
project organisation : benefits



northumbria architecture show, 2008

engagement with local communities: student projects can be presented back to the communities, increasing awareness and debate.

project organisation : benefits



matt bailey, three buildings for a village and a book, 2009

potential for ongoing dialogue : feedback to communities/ interested parties and raising awareness (lindisfarne/ scotswood/ morpeth + YL+P exhibitions)

project organisation : benefits



architecture studios, northumbria university

shared project brief : allows for collaborative working + reinforcement of studio culture through common themes; discussion and development through peer learning.

project organisation : benefits



joe crinion, gospels house, northumberland, 2009

meaningful engagement : enables structure and potential for sensitive, considered projects with an attitude to context (community/ historical/ physical/ theoretical/ architectural/ cultural.....)

project organisation : benefits



chris brown, young lit+phil, newcastle, 2009

An impromptu reading, other works hang like thoughts from the ceiling waiting to be discussed

contextual awareness : making the students aware of their place in the world and responsibilities in their contribution to it. People focussed architecture. Engagement rather than remote imposition.

'An architecture which is in resistance to the prevailing condition of the day and in favour of engaging memories in all of us – seeking an appropriate atmosphere that brings us back to a greater consciousness of our place in the world.'

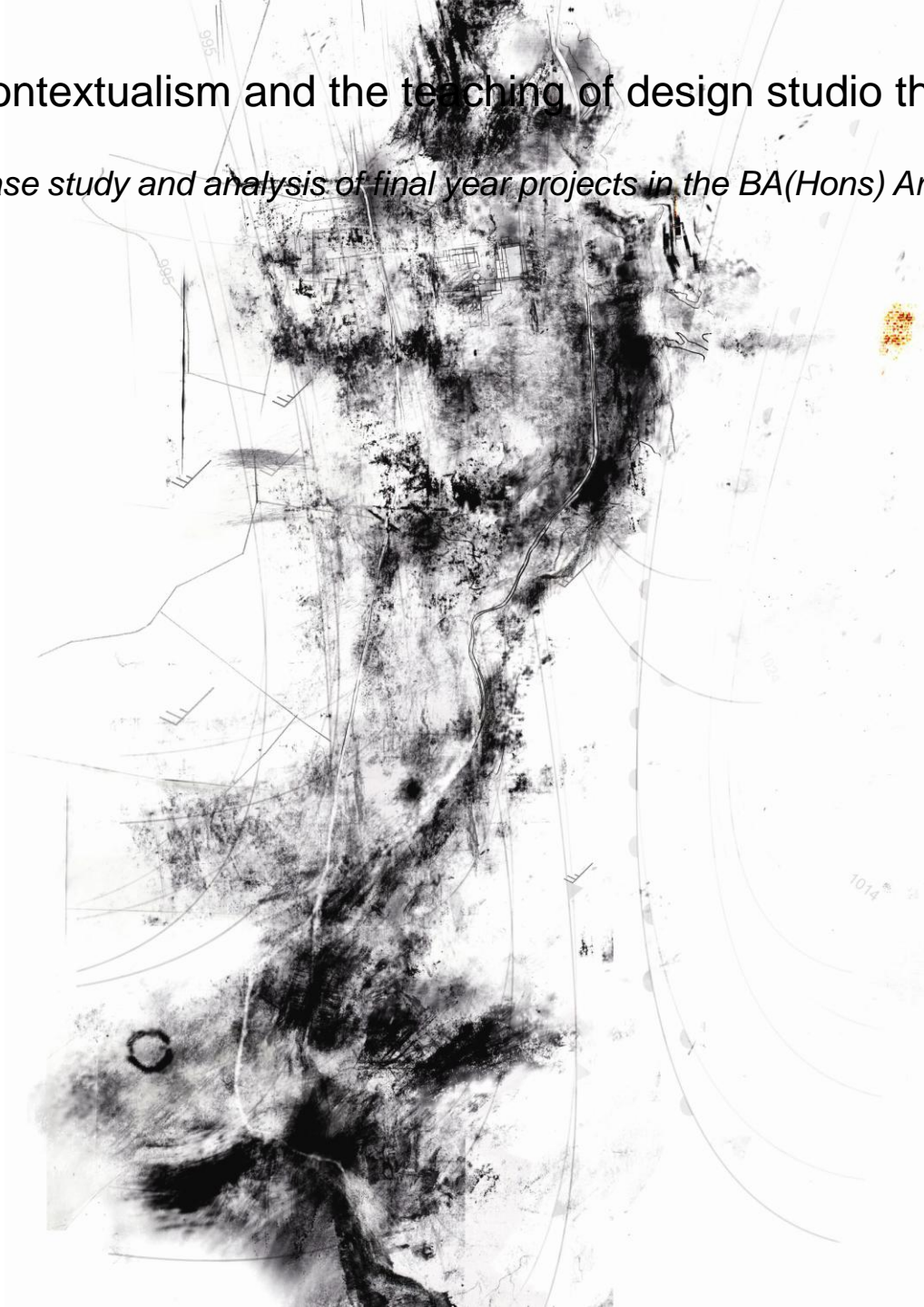
Stephen Bates, Meeting Tessenow, Papers 2.



richard long, sleeping place mark, 1990

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intercultural interactions 2010